

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 IO-14 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /102 W
-----120246 301545Z /45

R 300448Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHBBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7743
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSYXDOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1172

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PBOR, MU, TC
SUBJ: ZAYID COMMENTS TO KUWAITI PRESS ON OMAN-UAE BORDER DISPUTE

1. IN HIS RECENT INTERVIEW WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF KUWAITI DAILY RAI AL-AAM, ENGLISH VERSION OF WHICH APPEARED IN UAE EMIRATES NEWS ON APRIL 24, UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID WAS ASKED ABOUT BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN OMAN AND UAE. ZAYID'S REPLY WAS THAT ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN BROTHERS SHOULD BE SOLVED BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND SHOULD NOT BE ESCALATED. ZAYID DENIGRATED AS "NOT WORTH MENTIONING" MUCH OF THE WORLD AND REGIONAL PRESS REPORTING ON DISPUTE.

2. SPECIFICALLY, ZAYID QUOTED AS SAYING UAE IS READY TO NEGOTIATE MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT WITH OMAN "WHATEVER THE COST, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE GOOD BROTHERLY RELATIONS." HE ADDED THAT OMAN TOO IS WORKING TO AVOID ESCALATION OF THE DISPUTE. BOTH OMAN
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AND UAE ARE DEPENDENT UPON STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT STRAIT OF HORMUZ AND THEREFORE EACH COUNTRY SHOULD BE AWARE OF OTHER'S NEED AND FEELINGS ON THIS MATTER. SOMEWHAT AMBIVALENTLY, ZAYID SAID "A PERSON HAS TO ASK FOR HIS RIGHT AND IF HE RECEIVES THAT HIS BROTHER IS ON THE RIGHT THEN HE SHOULD NOT DO INJUSTICE TO HIM. THIS IS WHAT WE HOPE FOR FROM OUR BROTHERS."

3. COMMENT: THIS IS, WE BELIEVE, FIRST TIME THAT ZAYID HIM-
SELF HAS REFERRED PUBLICLY TO BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN OMAN AND
UAE EMIRATE OF RAS AL-KHAIMAH. UNCLEAR FROM HIS REMARKS IS
WHETHER ZAYID WAS APPEALING TO SULTAN QABUS TO RESPOND GENEROUSLY
TO UAE TERRITORIAL CLAIMS IN MUSANDUM OR WHETHER HIS REMARKS
ARE ALSO DIRECTED AT HIS FELLOW RULER, SHAIKH SAQ OF RAS AL-

KHAIMAH, WHO HAS THUS FAR DECLINED TO MODIFY HIS OWN COUNTER
CLAIMS.

DICKMAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 apr 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PBOR, MU, TC, (AL-NUHAYAN, ZAYID IBN SULTAN)
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